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to bow his acknowledgments to the audience. The *libretto* is written by Robert Reece, Esq., jun.

THE first prize for a pianoforte quartett, offered by the Society of British Musicians has been awarded to Mr. E. Prout, B.A., who two years ago carried off the Society's first prize for the best string quartett. The performance of the first and second prize works took place on June 15th, Miss Agnes Zimmermann taking the pianoforte. Mr. Prout's quartett is to be again performed at the last concert of the Pianoforte Quartett Association.

A CONCERT in aid of the organ fund of St. Matthew's Church, took place on the 16th ult. in Westbourne Hall. The *artistes* were Miss F. de Courcy, Madame Helen Percy, and Mr. Frank Elmore, vocalists; Miss Rosa Brinsmead (piano), Herr Otto Booth (violin), and Herr F. Booth (violincello). The audience, though not very numerous, appeared highly pleased with the entertainment provided. Balfe's trio, "I'm not the Queen," was unanimously encored. Mr. Bullivant, the organist of the church, conducted.

We hear that the inscription on the stone which covers the grave of the celebrated Dr. Croft, formerly organist of Westminster Abbey, and who lies interred in the north aisle of the choir there, has latterly become almost effaced from the constant tread of visitors to the spot. With a feeling of reverence which does honor to his name, Dr. Rogers, of Clapham and Westminster, has lately, by permission of the Dean and Chapter, had the inscription restored entirely at his own expense, an example which we would gladly see followed wherever similar records are in danger of becoming obliterated.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

JAMES PRATT.—Space will not allow of separate replies to our correspondent's queries, but we cannot do better than refer him to Mr. G. A. Macfarren's article on Bishop's Glee in the "Musical Times" for May, 1864, where the essential differences between madrigals, glees, and part-songs, are very ably stated. We may say, however, that a madrigal should not be "plain, like an ordinary part-song," but *jugal*, with ingenious contrapuntal contrivances, and most certainly *rhythmical*.

We scarcely understand our correspondent's question. Does he mean what authors have written in or on the species of counterpoint named? If the latter, many Italian theorists have treated of counterpoint, the names of whom space will not allow us to chronicle here. For accurate information on the subject we should recommend a reference to C. F. Becker's valuable work on musical literature.

** Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance. All communications must be authenticated by the proper name and address of the writer.

Our Correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes which may occur.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Notice is sent to all Subscribers whose payment (in advance) is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscription is not renewed. We again remind those who are disappointed in obtaining back numbers, that although the music pages are always stereotyped, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.

Brief Summary of Country News.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

ATTENBOROUGH.—On Whit Tuesday the Attenborough Church Choirs and Handbells gave a very interesting concert of sacred and secular music in the National School Room, Chilwell. The programme consisted of favourite pieces by the best composers, both sacred and secular, all of which were performed in a manner very creditable to the choir and those engaged in the training of the same, the solos, both vocal and instrumental, being well given throughout. The hand-bells added considerably to the enjoyment of the evening, the pieces played by them being executed with good taste and precision.

BROMLEY.—On Tuesday evening, the 30th of May, a concert was given in the Lecture Hall by the Poplar Glee and Madrigal Union. The programme consisted of part-songs, glees, &c. Mr. Hinton conducted, and Mrs. Hinton presided at the pianoforte.

CARTHORPE.—On Monday, the 5th ult., a concert was given in the new Reading Room, by the Choral Union, under the direction of Mr. Prendergast, organist of Burneston Parish Church. The programme consisted of songs, duets, and glees. The whole of the latter were taken from the *Musical Times*.

EXETER.—The Church of St. John and St. George was re-opened for divine service on Sunday the 18th ult., after having been for a very long time closed to effect some important alterations. In addition to the re-building of the eastern wall, and the decorations of the chancel, the communion has been raised off, and new reading-desks and books supplied. A small organ has been procured from the establishment of Mr. Dicker; and Mr. H. Brewer, an amateur, has been appointed organist. He performed his duties most efficiently at the opening service; and the choir is also entitled to much

praise for the careful manner in which they sang the music entrusted to them.

EXMOUTH.—A new organ, built by Mr. Walker, of London, containing 16 stops and 2½ octaves of pedals to CCC, was opened on Sunday, May 28th, at Withycomb Church, by Mr. W. Vinnicombe, late organist of Spalding Church, Lincolnshire.

FAVERSHAM.—On the 7th ult. the new organ, lately erected in the Congregational Church, by Mr. Henry Jones, of Brompton, was opened by Mr. Charles F. Davies, Organist of St. Peter's, Notting-hill. The programme contained "The horse and his rider" (Handel), an Offertoire by Wely, an Andante of Schumann's, and various other pieces, which were executed in a masterly manner, and were well calculated to display the various qualities of the instrument.

GREENOCK.—The annual private concert of the Choral Society was given in the Town Hall, on Friday, the 9th ult. The programme consisted of Mendelssohn's 95th Psalm, Haydn's *Spring*, and a cantata, composed by Mr. Poulter, the conductor of the society, entitled *The Bridge of Duty*. The concert passed off with considerable *éclat*, the solos and choruses being equally well sung.

HEREFORD.—The Midsummer Special Meeting of the Hereford Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. G. Townshend Smith, took place on the 14th ult., when a very excellent selection of music, chiefly consisting of glees, madrigals, and part-songs, was given. The instrumental portion of the concert contained Haydn's symphony in C, No. 7, and Mozart's Overture to "Cosi fan tutte." A solo was also performed on the violin by Mr. Burvill; on the corneopan, by Mr. A. Jones; and the Rev. J. C. Hanbury and Mr. L. W. Willett united their talents in a duet for pianoforte and violin. The concert was extremely successful.

KINGSTON (JAMAICA).—At S. Michael's Church, Easter day was kept with becoming solemnity. Full Choral Service was celebrated in the morning and in the evening; the church was beautifully decorated, and the occasion made one of unusual ceremony; it being also the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Feast of the Dedication of the Church to S. Michael. The organ (at which Mr. Lee presided) was enlarged last year; it has been greatly improved, and was re-opened in October last, with full choral service.

LIVERPOOL.—The Musical Society gave a concert of miscellaneous music at St. George's Hall, on Monday evening, 22nd of May. The principal vocalists were Miss Helena Walker, Mrs. Skeaf, Miss Bennett, Mr. D. Whitehead, and Mr. D. Lambert. Mr. Maybrick presided at the piano; Mr. Sanders conducted.—A CONCERT was given at the Concert Hall, on Monday, May 29th, for the benefit of Mr. W. Jones. The vocalists were Miss Bennett, Mrs. Skeaf, Mr. Steadman, Mr. George Hardie, Mr. T. J. Hughes, and the Misses Blaydes, assisted by a chorus selected from the members of the Musical Society: solo flute, Mr. A. Francis; cornet, Mr. G. A. W. Phillips; conductor and accompanist, Mr. Skeaf.

SHOREHAM (KENT).—On Thursday, the 25th of May, the Church Choir dined on the lawn belonging to the house of the Rev. J. H. L. Cameron; after which, the members of the choir presented the organist, Miss G. Cater, with Novello's folio editions of the *Messiah* and *Creation*, as an acknowledgment of her unwearied perseverance and attention to their instruction.

STOCKWELL.—On Monday, the 29th of May, the members of the Stockwell Choral Class, on the occasion of the last meeting of the season, presented their conductor, Mr. W. Lemare, with a very handsome time-piece, as a mark of their mutual esteem and appreciation of his exertions.

VALE OF AYLESBURY.—The members of the Sacred Harmonic Society, assisted by Mr. Reineagle and other instrumentalists from Oxford, &c., gave a Concert on Thursday, the 22nd ult. The first part consisted of a selection from *Judas Macabæus*, and the second of a Sacred Cantata, composed by the conductor of the society, Dr. Grey. The solos and choruses were all most efficiently rendered. The new cantata was very successful, many of the pieces being encored.

WEYMOUTH.—The Philharmonic Society of this town gave its first concert at the new and spacious Music Hall on Wednesday evening, May 31st. The concert was under the direction of Mr. Gubbins, the organist of Holy Trinity, who presided at the harmonium, and Mr. G. Thorne, the assistant organist of St. John's, who officiated as leader, and also played a solo on the pianoforte.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. A. W. Horan, to St. Mary's, Newry.—Mr. T. R. Willis, to Christ Church, St. George's-in-the-East.—Mr. H. Brewer, to St. John's, Exeter.

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